

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed September 8, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. By means of the present amendment, claims 2, 19, 25-26 and 30-31 have been canceled without prejudice and their features included in independent claims 1, 18 and 28. Accordingly, no new issues requiring a new search have been introduced and entry of the present Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 6-7, 18, 21-24, 27-29 and 32 remain in this application, where claims 1, 18 and 28 are independent.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-2, 6-7, 18-19 and 22-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by JP 2002-014359 (Masahide). Claims 1-2, 6-7, 18-19, 21, 23-25 and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,273,475 (Oshikawa). Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Masahide in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,592,623 (Yamamoto). Claims 26-27 and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Masahide in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0003711 (Hashimoto). Claims 26-27 and 31-32 are rejected

under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Oshikawa in view of Hashimoto. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 6-7, 18, 21-24, 27-29 and 32 are patentable over Masahide, Oshikawa Yamamoto and Hashimoto for at least the following reasons.

On pages 8 and 9 of the Final Office Action, in rejecting claims 26 and 31, the Examiner correctly noted that Masahide and Oshikawa do not disclose or suggest that an additional film has a first thickness near the edge, the first thickness being larger than a second thickness of the additional film away from the edge, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 18 and 28. Paragraphs [0054] and [0059], along with FIGs 5-6 of Hashimoto are cited in an attempt to remedy the deficiencies in Masahide and Oshikawa.

Paragraphs [0054], [0059], and FIGs 5-6 of Hashimoto disclose a displaying device 101 having a light-conducting body 106 and LCD 104. As clearly shown in FIGs 5-6, both the light-conducting body 106 and the LCD 104 have a uniform thickness. A pair of light units 130 is provided at both sides of the light-conducting body 106. The light units 130 are not part of the light-conducting body 106, and even if they are, both the light units 130 and the light-conducting body 106 have the same thickness.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in

independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 13 and 16, amongst other patentable elements recites (illustrative emphasis provided) :

wherein **the additional film** has a first thickness near the edge, the first thickness being larger than a second thickness of the additional film away from the edge.

A film having a varying thickness is nowhere disclosed or suggested in Masahide, Oshikawa, Hashimoto, and combinations thereof. Rather, the two layers 106, 106 shown in FIGs 5-6 of Hashimoto each has a uniform thickness. Yamamoto is cited to allegedly show other features and do not remedy the deficiencies in Masahide and Oshikawa.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 18 and 28 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6-7, 21-24, 27, 29 and 32 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1, 18 and 28.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of

argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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